College Library

HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. X CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1908 No. 15

Freshmen Victorious

Last Saturday night in the Gymnasium for the first time in several years, a team representing the Hamilton Freshmen defeated a Colgate University team in basketball. The fact in itself is significant. The result of the game was due in no way to an inferior Colgate team for their Freshmen were representative Colgate athletes, about the right weight for the game, fast, and with a good eye for the basket.

Some idea of the degree by which they were outclassed may be had from the score, 63-15. From the first minute of play the outcome was evident, Colgate being unable to break up the passes or to handle the ball when in their possession. The Freshmen, on the other hand, played an exceedingly aggressive game, covering their men well, passing like veterans and finding the basket in rapid succession.

The result of the game makes the prospect for the future especially bright.

The line up follows:

COLGATE		HAMILTON
	Right Forward	
Webb (Hitchcock)		Nixon
	Left Forward	
Baker		Gardner
	Center	
Flaherty (Webb)		Allen
	Right Guard	
Woolfenden (Stokes)		Getman
	Left Guard	
Kelly		Sidle

Referee—G. Smith, '08; Umpire—H. Foster, Colgate; Timekeeper—Jones, '11, Goals from field: Allen 9, Nixon 8, Getman 8, Sidle 2, Gardner 2, Flaherty 4, Hitchcock, Stokes. Goals from fouls: Allen 5, Webb 3. Time of halves—20 minutes.

Psi Upsilon Reception

Wednesday afternoon the Psi of Psi Upsilon was "at home" from four until six for members of the Faculty and their wives. This was the first formal function to be given by the Chapter in its new home, and it was pleasantly carried out. The large living room was attractively decorated and as a reception room was very successful. Mrs. Squires and Mrs. Davenport poured.

Dr. Davenport Lectures

On Tuesday evening, in the Auditorium of the New Century Club of Utica, Dr. Davenport delivered the fifth of his series of lectures selecting as his topic "The Railways and the Government." This lecture, as has been the case of its predecessors, was received by a large and very appreciative audience, characterized by its representation of men prominent in public affairs. The people of Utica have not been slow to take advantage of the opportunity of hearing national problems so ably discussed and by an authority as eminent as Dr. Davenport.

The substance of the speech was that the railways as a private business is passing away and the problem now confronting us is how to bring the railways under governmental control and regulation.

The view that the railway is fundamentally a public industry, amenable to public control, is the view, not only of the people of the United States, but of every people who have confronted the railway as a national problem. In spite of the violent opposition of the industrial railway aristocracy, democracy in America has firmly and progressively widened the frontier of control.

In the beginning of railway competition the companies afforded no protection to the public in the construction of their roads, having no idea at all of any particular duty to the state.

It was the farmers of the Middle West, pinched by the great industrial crisis of 1873, who fired the first shot against railway abuse and oppression and made a united attempt under the granger movement to subject them to legislative control.

From this point on Dr. Davenport traced the steps by which the nation has slowly asserted control, and followed its development with the Interstate Commerce Act of 1887 which he characterized as exceedingly ineffective in general, and defective in many particulars.

Dr. Davenport paid due praise to President Roosevelt and said that he, through his messages and speeches, had stirred the mind of the country as it had never been stirred on this question, and got behind the lagging and recalcitrant Congress with a prod that seemed to have the temper of steel at the end of it—grievously resented, but not comfortable to kick against.

Dr. Davenport expressed his opinion that before the problem was settled there would be national jurisdiction that would cover the operations of all railroads which have in any way interstate relations. That will mean that the growing power of great centralized corporations is to be met, and squarely met, by a centralized democracy. It is one more step in the making of a nation.

Wrestling

A meeting of those who were interested in wrestling was held in the Chapel at 11:30 on Monday. Manager McCarthy, '08, occupied the chair and plans for the season discussed.

It was decided to hold an interclass tournament which will probably be pulled off within a few weeks. The

first match will be between the Seniors and Juniors and a second for the Sophomores and Freshmen. A championship match will then be arranged for the winners.

Men will be divided into four classes according to their weights, viz;

Light Weight		Under 135 lbs.
Welter "	Above 135, "	145 lbs.
Middle "	" 145, "	158 lbs.
Heavy "	" 158,	

The Captains for the different classes are:

Seniors, Cody.
Juniors, Thomas.
Sophomores, Abbott.

The Freshman captain has not yet been elected.

Any man wishing to try out for his class team should hand in his name to his captain at once.

Prof. Ibbotson Lectures

On Monday afternoon, January 20, Prof. Ibbotson delivered the fourth in his interesting series of lectures on "The English Poets of the Nineteenth Century." Monday's lecture dealt with the "Influence of Ancient Classical Literature on Poetry in the Nineteenth Century." The lectures are proving most delightful, and are greatly appreciated by lovers of English literature.

In speaking of the influence of the classics upon English poetry, Prof. Ibbotson said:

"The history of English literature from Chaucer down to the present time is largely the modifications of native genius and characteristics by classical influence. From first to last the forms, the subjects, the style, the diction of English poetry have constantly been suggested or even determined by the poetry of Greece and Rome with rare exceptions. The makers of English poetry have been men and women schooled in classical literature, so saturated with its images and phrases that they could not have escaped its influence, had they so desired. You think of Milton as the most learned of English poets and the most classical, but it may be shown that the complete elucidation of Tennyson, of Shelley or Arnold calls for scarcely less intimate acquaintance with the ancients than does "Paradise Lost" or "Comus." Their poetry can be understood in its fulness only by one who brings to his reading some familiarity with the literature on which the great poets had been nourished.

The advocates of a purely industrial system of education are at present confining their attack upon the humanities to Greek. From that they will go on to banish from our curriculum all other subjects that have no connection with cash profits and commercial efficiency. If, however, we care for the best in English literature we must care for the best in those ancient literatures from which the English has sprung, and must wage a constant warfare upon the short-sightedness that would cut us off from the past in which our culture and civilization are rooted.

The greater poets of the nineteenth century experimented with the forms, told again the stories and reproduced the spirit of the ancient Roman and Greek literatures. With hardly an exception, they manifest their classical education and culture. They filled their pages with the deeds of heroes, they built little chapels about the great Homeric pantheon, they bring us back to the glory that was Greece and the power that was Rome."

The next lecture will be given on February 3, and at that time Prof. Ibbotson will continue the subject of the influence of classical literature on the poetry of the nineteenth century in regard to the form and spirit.

Prospects for Gym Show

Plans are rapidly being formulated and things are beginning to take shape for the annual gymnastic and athletic exhibition. "Uncle John" is working hard training the men for the different classes and hopes to pull off the Gym Show as one of the events of Junior Week.

Several of the Freshmen and Sophomores are showing up well and some records are sure to be broken.

The program will be a little more inclusive than formerly, and while the classes are not as yet entirely filled the events will be as follows, with records as they stand:

1. 440 Yard Run. Record, Mann, '06, and Loftis, '05; tie, 1 min. 1 3-5 sec.
2. 880 Yard Run. Record, Chapman, '03, 2 min. 38 sec.
3. Mile Run. Record, S. Sherman, '04, 5 min. 22 sec.
4. Potato Race. 20 potatoes one yard apart. Record, Carter, '04, 51 sec.
5. Low Bar. Distance Record, Minor, '04, 9 ft.
6. Low Bar. Height Record, Edgerton, '05, 5 ft. 4 in.
7. Rope Climbing. Record, Farrell, '05, 10 1-5 sec.
8. High Kick. Standing. Record, Remington, '04, 7 ft. 7in.
9. High Kick. Running. Record, Knox, '04, 8 ft. 5 in.
10. Club Swinging. Hoffman, '05.
11. Fence Vault. Record, Remington, '04, 6 ft. 6 in.
12. Pull Up. Record, Farrell, '04, 18 times.
13. Wrestling. Hosmer, '06, Bramley, '06.
14. Standing Broad Jump. Record, Remington, '04, 9 ft. 5 in.
15. Acrobatics. Bristol, '04, Edgerton, '05.
16. High Jump. Record, Remington, '04, 5 ft. 2 in.
17. Pushing 100-pound dumb bell. Record, Ward, '02, 21 times, one arm 9 times.
18. Parallel Bars.
19. Dip. Record, Strickland, '04, 19 times.
20. Shot Putting. Record, Speh, '05, 34 ft. 5 in.
21. Flying Rings.
22. Sparring.
23. Spring Board and Horse.
24. High Dive.

Conference

On February 7th and 8th, there is to be held a conference in Middletown, Conn., on "The Call of the Ministry to Young Men." At the present time there is a great need of more candidates for the ministry, and this conference will discuss ways and means of setting the call to the ministry before young men, especially College men.

Representatives are expected from the Seminaries, Colleges and Boys' Schools, and some of the most influential clergy of the Church are to lead the discussion. The meetings will be held at the Berkeley Divinity School.

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Reportorial

E. P. GLOVER. R. W. TITUS
J. M. CROSS. J. N. MCMATH

LAST WEEK THERE was published an account of two inter-class basketball games. While there is nothing remarkable in that *per se*, LIFE is very glad that it had the opportunity to record these two games. Although class games may not be as good exhibitions of the scientific points of a game as those played by the Varsity, nevertheless to anyone who has seen one of these games it is clearly evident that in them alone is the sport of any such contest realized. The Senior-Junior game last week was pure fun for all the men who were in it; and the Sophomore-Freshman contest was as exciting for the spectators as any game that has been played here this year. This sort of spirit in our games is what we are striving for. LIFE hopes that it may have further opportunity to manifest itself in more class games.

LIFE REGRETS to note the attitude that certain undergraduates have taken with regard to season tickets and subscriptions for basketball. By the purchase of season tickets the buyers actually saved themselves money. However, when asked to subscribe for basketball, these men say that they have given $1 (not considering that this is for a ticket worth $1.50) and refuse to subscribe. This attitude is wrong. The team needs your support — don't be too close with your subscription and don't try to shy out of it by any such dodge as that above outlined.

LAST WINTER term the College was so fortunate as to have given for it by members of the Faculty a series of illustrated lectures. That these were appreciated by the student-body was shown by the attendance, which was good and always representative of the College. Last fall the matter was brought up in Chapel as to whether we should have a lecture course this year, and there seemed to be an enthusiastic desire for such a series. As yet no lectures have been announced, nor have we heard advance rumors of any. LIFE mentions this, not in any critical spirit, but in hope that those with whom the arrangement of a lecture course may rest, may consider it an expression of student opinion, and take steps to provide a set of lectures.

WE ARE GLAD to chronicle and commend the improvement made by the Instrumental Club since the Utica concert. At that time the club was not finished in its technique and its numbers were not up to standard. Since then, however, faithful practice has had its result and now the club is playing with fine expression. The Glee Club, too, is showing marked improvement and promises to better the club of last year. We heartily commend to the Alumni the work of both these clubs. They are striving hard for the College and are exercising for it an influence not to be lightly regarded. In this work they need your help and influence and we are sure that any aid or encouragement you may give will not be misplaced.

COASTING IS ONE OF the chief features of life on this Hill. We all enjoy it and in our eagerness for the sport we are prone to forget the rights of others. Certain it is that the appropriation of others' sleds has been very vigorously carried on during the winter. Complaints of lost sleds are frequent, in fact too frequent. Sleds have been taken from the dormitories. This is a severe breach of college etiquette and one that should not be tolerated. Nothing, perhaps, is more annoying than to find the sled gone which you dragged up with some little difficulty in the morning. It certainly is not conducive to evenness of temper or a kindly frame of mind. We do not like to think that it arises from malice or intention but is mere thoughtlessness on the part of the offenders. Whatever is the cause, the practice should be stopped and that immediately.

WHEN THE SENIOR CLASS held its last meeting it was discovered that a tax of over eight dollars per man would be necessary to pay the deficit on its Hamiltonian. Now, of course, the 1908 Hamiltonian was a good one and moreover it was "gotten up regardless," but isn't that too much for any class to pay merely for the privilege of publishing it? All along the line we have been too extravagant and ambitious to get the full pleasure and benefit out of our activities. Our annuals, our dances, are all too much of the "Pike's Peak or bust" variety. It is far from our purpose to criticise the editors of the Hamiltonian, whose unselfish work deserves only praise, but why the sixty odd pages of the literary department? No one ever picks up a college year-book to read the stories it contains. While these add very materially to the expense, they do not add in any great degree to its attractiveness or salability. Munsey's magazine, for instance, will always be beyond competition by even the best of our annual Junior publications. And if we are not misinformed, many copies remain unsold from every issue of recent years, copies which the College, in spite of experience to the contrary, was expected to buy. Surely

the binding of these extra copies is in itself quite an item of expense.

What we seek in the present Hamiltonian Board is the beginning of a new policy. We would like to see a board which, realizing the difficulty of its undertaking, will labor to produce a book truly representative and reminiscent of the College, which shall leave out nothing important while introducing nothing superfluous. And we believe that such a book, published on a business basis, would receive far better support from the College, would be far more satisfactory to the class, and would pay for itself, with perhaps the exception of the binding.

THE PROPOSED bowling alleys in Commons call for favorable consideration at the hands of all interested in the welfare of the College. It is intended to convert the cellar of Commons Hall into bowling alleys for the College. The idea is excellent. Not only will it serve to provide healthy amusement and recreation but will bring the men in closer touch with one another by giving them a common interest. And, after all, that is one of the main objects of any college. This seems to us an excellent policy and one which should be heartily commended. We confess that we would like to see Commons a sort of clubhouse where the whole College had membership tickets and where they could drop in whenever they pleased. A few billiard tables would be in line with this arrangement. Perhaps this is a dreamer's rose-colored view of the future. But it looks well.

THE TENTATIVE bookings for next fall's football schedule, as reported in the last issue of LIFE, bring to mind rather forcibly one or two doubts as to our general athletic policy. The playing of teams like Cornell and Syracuse on successive Saturdays early in the term seems of doubtful expediency, and the chances of our team coming safely out of two such heavy games, early though they be, are uncertain. Unquestionably one such game would be of benefit in shaping the team, but too much of such gruelling may easily be disastrous. We may learn a lesson from the Lafayette game last year which, according to the best advices, was the direct means of our defeat at Rochester.

We ought to remember that ours is at best a minor team and it is better to make a good showing in our own class than to be creditably, but overwhelmingly, defeated by inevitably superior teams. It's good sportsmanship to lose well, but it's good sport to play where we have a chance to win. It's fairer, too, to College and team. The experience gained from the many big games seldom counterbalances the injuries and difficulties of conditioning the team.

Why not return to a progressive, constructive schedule that has for its objective the Colgate game and, that while carefully considering that we want to defeat Rochester, Union and Hobart, subordinates all these to that end? One heavy game in the early fall is good — Cornell or Williams or Syracuse — then we have a liberal choice — St. Lawrence, R. P. I., Trinity, N. Y. U. and others — all in our class and requiring our best efforts to defeat handily, but games that will permit us to progress steadily towards the Colgate game. It is practically impossible to keep a team "coming" all through the season with such heavy games as Cornell, Syracuse and Lafayette to be creditably played, especially if they come in mid-season or after. As a result, the end of the season finds us just over a slump at the last moment and working to get into good condition for the Colgate game. We generally play that contest on nerve.

The milder schedule may not be invariably any more productive of success, but it is surer and safer. It is good policy. It considers our limitations — light, fragile men, lack of substitutes, and a short season — and we want to defeat Union, Rochester and Colgate. There is no use putting our heads in the garden wall to get the coveted apple — climb the stile.

Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday evening the Advisory Board held a meeting in Silliman Hall. The question of a coach for baseball was raised and it was finally voted to hire Mr. Murphy of the New England League to coach the team next spring. He comes to us very well recommended. The Board also empowered the Track Management to enter a relay team in the races at the Troy Carnival to be held on February twenty-sixth.

Interclass Basketball

	Won.	Lost.
1908	0	1
1909	1	0
1910	0	1
1911	1	0

MONDAY — JANUARY 27.
Juniors vs. Sophomores
Seniors vs. Freshmen
MONDAY — FEBRUARY 3.
Seniors vs. Sophomores
Juniors vs. Freshmen
Games called at 7:30 P. M.

— Prof. Fitch will lecture in the Kirkland Town Library next Monday evening.

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COLLEGE NOTES

— Electric lights are being put in the residence of President Stryker.

— Electric lights have been installed in Emerson Hall during the past week.

— Riggs, '08, defeated Dounce, '10: and Greengard, '08, defeated Truax, '09, in the chess tournament.

— Burns, '10, gave the men who were out for the assistant-managership of football this year a theatre party Saturday night.

— As the result of a bad fall, Holmes, '08, is now travelling about on crutches, having severely torn the cartilages of the knee.

— Conklin, '09, who has not played in the recent basketball games on account of an injury received at Watertown during the Christmas trip, is much improved.

— At the meeting of the Advisory Board, Wednesday night, Grossmeyer, '07, and Wilson, '09, were awarded H's which they won in the Triangular Meet last Spring.

— Colson, '11, has taken charge of the newly organized Junior Y. M. C. A. work in Clinton. Meetings are held every Wednesday evening. There is a membership of about twenty.

— Capt. G. B. Smith, of the basketball team, wrenched his knee again, in practice, Monday afternoon. While the injury is not serious, a prolonged absence from the team is probable.

— The Junior Whist Club meets next Wednesday at the Delta Upsilon House and the following Wednesday at the Chi Psi Lodge, where the Juniors of Chi Psi and Theta Delta Chi will entertain.

— As heretofore, the number of dances at the Junior Prom. will be forty, but instead of the dancing commencing at 10 o'clock or half-past, the usual concert will be omitted and the dancing will begin promptly at 9.

— The Dramatic Club will present "Arabian Nights" at the Scollard Opera House in Clinton, Thursday afternoon of Junior week. It is probable that they will present their play in Utica some time in the early part of March.

— Captain Harry Smith, '08, of the Track Team, has received an invitation for the representation of Hamilton at the Annual Indoor Athletic Carnival, to be held at Troy, February 26th. The following institutions will be represented: Cornell, Pennsylvania, Williams, Wesleyan, Colgate, Union, R. P. I. It is not likely that the invitation can be accepted, owing to the Junior week festivities at that time.

— Glee Club practices will be:

Monday,	5 P. M.
Tuesday,	5
Wednesday,	2
Thursday,	4:15
Friday,	7:30
Saturday,	2

Instrumental Club practices:

Monday,	7 P. M.
Tuesday,	
Wednesday,	3:30
Thursday,	5
Friday,	5
Saturday,	3:30

General Smyth's Death

Gen. Charles H. Smyth died at Princeton, N. J., on Jan. 20th, after an illness of about a month. Although not an Alumnus of Hamilton, Gen. Smyth was an adopted son, having sent his sons here for their education. Since 1895 he had been a Trustee of the College.

Charles H. Smyth was a native of Oswego, where he was born in 1839, and where he was educated. In the early 70's Mr. Smyth moved to Clinton, being at that time interested in the Franklin Iron Works, and has since resided here.

In politics he was an old line Democrat and served on the staff of Samuel J. Tilden, when the latter was Governor of New York State. He had been one of the Trustees of Clinton. Since 1898 Mr. Smyth had been a very prominent member of the Fort Schuyler Club.

The funeral was held Wednesday morning at his late home in Clinton, the Rev. H. W. Crydenwise officiating, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Bellinger of Utica.

In him the College loses a faithful Trustee, a man who always took great interest in the College which he had adopted. His many friends and neighbors heard the news of his decease with deep sorrow.

ALUMNIANA

'41. Hon. Augustus L. Rhodes, LL. D., the oldest living graduate of Hamilton, has resigned his seat on the Bench of the Superior Court of California.

'51. The death of Daniel Waterman, one of Utica's oldest lawyers, occurred January 17.

'65. The news has been received of the death of William Sloan Miller, which occurred in New York City, January 13. He was a well-known grain merchant, and until the time of his death was connected with the New York Produce Exchange.

'06. Robert N. McLean, who is attending the Auburn Theological Seminary, was on the Hill Saturday. He preached in Vernon, Sunday.

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